

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CGEN, CPAS, CVIS, GE, GW, WB, US

SUBJ: "GERMANY" IN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS; GDR "NON-PAPER"

REFS: A) STATE 078277; B) STATE 208844; C) BERLIN 5367;
D) BERLIN 5277; E) BERLIN 5111

1. BACKGROUND: REF A INFORMED EMBASSY THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD DECIDED TO RETAIN "GERMANY" TO DESIGNATE "BIRTHPLACE" IN U.S. DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS OF PERSONS BORN IN GERMANY RATHER THAN RESPOND TO GDR REQUESTS TO ALTER THAT DESIGNATION. ON JULY 28, 1976 EMBOFF (WOLF) INFORMED CONSULAR DEPARTMENT MFA (SEIDEL) OF THIS DECISION. (EMBASSY USED CONSULAR CHANNEL TO DEPOLITICIZE OUR POSITION AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID CONTINUED AGITATION ON THIS MATTER.) MRS. SEIDEL NOTED EMBOFF'S STATEMENT, REGRETTED THE DECISION, AND SAID SHE COULD NOT EXCLUDE THAT GDR WOULD RETURN TO SUBJECT IN THE FUTURE. END BACKGROUND.

2. ON AUGUST 26, EMBOFF (WOLF) CALLED AT CONSULAR DEPARTMENT AT MRS. SEIDEL'S REQUEST AND WAS RECEIVED BY HER AND MR. (FNU) WETTER (NOTE TAKER). SHE READ ALOUD THE FOLLOWING "NON-PAPER", WHICH WAS THEN HANDED TO EMBOFF.

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3. INFORMAL TRANSLATION - UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED.

"CONSULAR DEPARTMENT OF MFA REGRETS RESPONSE OF STATE DEPARTMENT TRANSMITTED BY MR. WOLF, FIRST SECRETARY OF U.S. EMBASSY IN THE G.D.R., ON JULY 28, 1976, ADVISING THAT THE PROCEDURE OF PASSPORT ISSUANCE BY PASSPORT OFFICE COULD NOT BE CHANGED.

"ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO FACT THAT CONSULAR DEPARTMENT OF MFA HAS BEEN FORTHCOMING BY VISAING DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT ISSUED TO RACHEL BISHOP, DAUGHTER OF SECOND SECRETARY OF U.S. EMBASSY. IN DOING THIS, CONSULAR DEPARTMENT EXPRESSED EXPECTATION THAT STATE DEPARTMENT WOULD FIND A CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM, ACCEPTABLE TO G.D.R.

"IT IS NOT REALISTIC TO EXPECT THAT CONSULAR DEPARTMENT OF MFA AND REPRESENTATIONS OF G.D.R. ABROAD WILL VISA FOR UNLIMITED TIME IN THE FUTURE SUCH PASSPORTS ISSUED TO U.S. CITIZENS WHO WERE BORN IN F.R.G., IN G.D.R. OR IN BERLIN (WEST), AND GIVING "GERMANY" AS COUNTRY OF BIRTH, IN CONTRADICTION TO SITUATION RESULTING FROM WORLD WAR II AND POST-WAR DEVELOPMENTS.

"MFA EXPECTS THAT STATE DEPARTMENT WILL AGAIN REVIEW ITS PRESENT POINT OF VIEW CONCERNING THIS ISSUE AND WILL BRING ABOUT AN APPROPRIATE CHANGE OF THIS PRACTICE OF THE PASSPORT OFFICE COMPATIBLE WITH THE CSCE FINAL ACT.

"NOTWITHSTANDING THE POSITION ASSUMED BY U.S.A. IN THIS QUESTION, G.D.R. WILL CONTINUE ITS COURSE OF CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION AND, PURSUANT TO LEGAL REGULATIONS OF THE GDR, ISSUE VISAS ACCORDING TO PASSPORT CATEGORY TO HOLDERS OF SUCH PASSPORTS ON AN EXTRA SHEET TO THE PASSPORT.

"VISAS ISSUED ON EXTRA SHEET SHALL BE VALID ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH PASSPORT BOTH FOR CROSSING BORDER AND STAYING IN GDR. IT IS CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO STATE EXPRESSLY, IN THIS CONTEXT, THAT ISSUANCE OF A VISA ON EXTRA SHEET TO PASSPORT NEITHER MEANS A REFUSAL NOR A NON-RECOGNITION OF THESE PASSPORTS OF THE USA. IT IS ONLY EMPLOYED TO EXPRESS THE POSITION THAT THE ENTRY CONTAINED IN SUCH PASSPORT CANNOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE CONFIDENTIAL

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GDR.

"THE DECISION TO ISSUE VISAS ON EXTRA SHEET TO PASSPORT IN SUCH CASES WILL BE LIFTED AS SOON AS USA HAS HONORED THE JUSTIFIED DEMANDS OF GDR IN AN APPROPRIATE WAY."

4. EMBOFF ACCEPTED THE "NON-PAPER", SAYING HE WOULD REPORT IT TO THE DEPARTMENT AND, IF A RESPONSE WAS

RECEIVED AND HE WAS SO INSTRUCTED, COMMUNICATE WITH THE MFA.

5. COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION: IN REF B, THE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTED EMBASSY ATHENS TO ACCEPT AN "ANLAGE" IN THE CASE OF CHRISTIAN ALEXANDER, SON OF THE NEW CPAO, BUT BEFORE GOING SO TO URGE STRONGLY THAT THE VISA BE PLACED IN THE PASSPORT. WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT'S DECISION TO ACCEPT THE "ANLAGE" IS SOUND, AND REPRESENTS A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM, THAT DOES NO DAMAGE TO FUNDAMENTAL US INTERESTS.

6. IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THE FOLLOWING DEPENDENTS OF EMBASSY STAFF BEARING DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS WITH BIRTH-PLACE DESCRIBED AS "GERMANY" WILL REQUIRE NEW GDR VISAS ON THE DATES INDICATED:

CAROLYN A. PARKER - SEPTEMBER 27, 1976
ELISABETH M. PARKER - SEPTEMBER 27, 1976
MAIA M.-O. KLEIN - OCTOBER 21, 1976
CHRISTIAN ALEXANDER - NOVEMBER 24, 1976
RACHEL J. BISHOP - FEBRUARY 17, 1977

7. WE ASSUME THAT IN THESE CASES THE GDR WILL INSIST ON ISSUING THE VISAS ON "ANLAGES", AND WE SEE LITTLE MERIT IN INITIALLY OBJECTING TO THE "ANLAGE" IF WE INTEND TO ACCEPT IT ULTIMATELY. THEREFORE, THE EMBASSY PROPOSES THAT IT BE AUTHORIZED TO APPROACH THE MFA AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS ORALLY;

- WE HAVE STUDIED THE MINISTRY'S AUGUST 26 "NON-PAPER".

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- DESIGNATION OF "BIRTHPLACE" IN US PASSPORTS IS A MATTER COMPLETELY WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

- RESERVING OUR RIGHT TO RETURN IF NECESSARY TO THIS MATTER IN THE FUTURE, AND IN A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION, AND NOT WISHING TO BURDEN OUR RELATIONS, THE UNITED STATES WISHES TO STATE ITS VIEW THAT THE FORM IN WHICH THE GDR ISSUES VISAS IS A MATTER FOR DECISION BY THE GDR. COOPER

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